

NL INDUSTRIES/TARACORP SUPERFUND SITE GROUP

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April 6, 2018

By Electronic Mail and First Class Mail

Ms. Sheri L. Bianchin
 Remedial Project Manager
 Institutional Controls Coordinator
 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5
 77 West Jackson Boulevard (SR-6J)
 Chicago, IL 60604

**Re: NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site; Granite City, Illinois
 Consent Decree – Quarterly Progress Report 49 (January-March 2018)**

Dear Ms. Bianchin:

As required by the Consent Decree for the NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site (the “site”), two copies of this letter are submitted, on behalf of the NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site Group (“Group”), to provide the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) with a quarterly progress report for activities performed during the period from January-March 2018.

1. Actions Taken During Previous Quarter to Comply with the Consent Decree:

- **Institutional Controls:** The Group's project coordinator continued to update the draft Institutional Controls Work Plan.
- **Operation and Maintenance:** At the request of EPA, the Group's project coordinator continued efforts to update the Operation and Maintenance Plan. Also, on March 27, 2018, the Group authorized Munie Greencare Professionals to perform vegetation control and mowing services on the properties at 16th Street and State Street in 2018.
- **Project Coordination:** During the January-March 2018 period and in addition to items previously noted, the Group's project coordinator communicated with the following parties regarding work at the site:

January 4	Submitted Quarterly Progress Report 48 to EPA.
March 1	Submitted a response to an environmental consultant in regard to the 1 Vintage Drive property in Granite City.

2. Summary of Data and/or Results of Sampling and Tests Received:

- Not applicable for this reporting period.

3. Work Plans, Plans, and Other Deliverables Completed and Submitted to EPA During the Previous Quarter:

- Not applicable for this reporting period.

4. Actions, Data Collection, and Implementation of Work Plans and Other Information Related to the Progress of Construction which are Scheduled to be Performed During the Next Six-Week Period:

- The Group will continue to perform operation and maintenance activities at the site, as required. The Group's project coordinator will continue to update the Operation and Maintenance Plan.
- The Group will address comments or questions, if any are received from EPA, regarding the six remote fill properties addressed in the Group's August 2017 memorandum.
- The Group will address comments, if any are received from EPA, on Environmental Works, Inc.'s Remedial Action Report, which was submitted to EPA in July 2017 to address the completion of residential soil remediation activities performed at the site in 2015 to 2017.
- The Group will address comments or questions from EPA, if any are received, on the Visual Canvassing Report and the Contingency Measures Work Plan, which were submitted to EPA in January 2017.
- The Group will continue to update the Institutional Controls Work Plan and will address comments, if any are received from EPA, on the Institutional Controls Work Plan previously submitted to EPA. In addition, the Group will address comments, if any are received from EPA, on the draft environmental covenants for Taracorp Inc.'s 16th Street property and the NL Industries Generator Site Group L.L.C.'s **NON-RESPONSIVE** property, which were submitted to EPA in August 2017.
- The Group will address comments, if any are received from EPA, in regard to the Five-Year Review Groundwater Monitoring Report, which was submitted to EPA on August 11, 2014 to summarize the results of the April 2014 groundwater monitoring event.
- The Group will address comments, if any are received from EPA, in regard to: (1) the Soil Sampling and Analysis Report, which was submitted to EPA in January 2014 to document the results from soil sampling activities at 73 residential properties in April – May 2011, September 2012, June 2013, and October 2013; (2) the Soil Sampling and Analysis Report Addendum, which was submitted to EPA in December 2015 to document the results of soil sampling performed on three residential properties **NON-RESPONSIVE** in June 2015 and one residential property **NON-RESPONSIVE** in November 2015; and (3) the Soil Sampling and Analysis Report Addendum No. 2, which was submitted to EPA in September 2016 to document the results of soil sampling activities performed on three residential properties **NON-RESPONSIVE** in August 2016.

5. Problems Encountered, Anticipated Problems, Actual or Anticipated Delays, and Efforts Developed or Implemented to Mitigate Delays:

- Not applicable for this reporting period.

6. Modifications to Work Plans or Schedules Proposed to EPA or Approved by EPA:

- Not applicable for this reporting period.

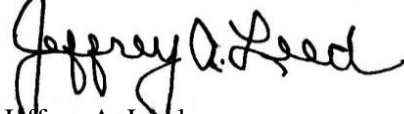
7. Community Relations Activities During Previous Month or to be Undertaken During Next Six-Week Period:

- Not applicable for this reporting period.

Should you or your staff have questions or comments regarding this progress report, please contact this office at (610) 670-7310.

Very truly yours,

LEED ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.



Jeffrey A. Leed
Project Coordinator

cc: Nicole Wood-Chi, Esq. – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (by electronic mail)
Christopher Grubb, Esq. – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (by electronic mail)
Mr. Brian Conrath - Illinois EPA (by electronic mail and first class mail)
Mr. Tom Miller – Illinois EPA (by electronic mail)
Technical Committee, NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site Group (by electronic mail)